

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 143462  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: EA/VLC:TMCARNEY:JY

APPROVED BY: EA/VLC:JDROSENTHAL

S/S-O:AWOTTO

-----022178 210543Z /14

R 210533Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 143462

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BANGKOK FROM  
VIENTIANE JUNE 20:

QUOTE S E C R E T VIENTIANE 0946

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PBOR ENRG MMOL LA VM

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE ACTIVITY IN SAVANNAKHET

REF: VIENTIANE 0942

1. A KNOWLEDGEABLE AND USUALLY RELIABLE WESTERN SOURCE TOLD  
EMBOFF JUNE 20 THAT AN ASSOCIATE RELATED TO HIM SAME DATE THE  
FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING VIETNAMESE ACTIVITY  
AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE.

2. PAVN FORCES HAVE POSITIONED THIRTY RIVER CRAFT ON  
THE MEKONG IN THE VICINITY OF SAVANNAKHET. THE CRAFT  
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WERE BROUGHT IN TO LAOS FROM VIETNAM SINCE MAY; EACH  
IS ARMED WITH A MACHINE GUN.

3. VIETNAMESE, APPARENTLY CIVILIANS, ARE ESTABLISHING  
SETTLEMENTS OF APPROXIMATELY 700 HOUSES EACH AT FOUR  
POINTS ON ROUTE 9 BETWEEN KILOMETER 15 AND SENO, NORTH  
AND EAST OF SAVANNAKHET.

4. AT SENO, THERE IS A LARGE ENCAMPMENT OF VIETNAMESE TROOPS EQUIPPED WITH APPROXIMATELY SIXTY TANKS AND APPROXIMATELY 200 "TROOP CARRIER" TRUCKS.

5. THERE ARE FUEL STORAGE TANKS (OPERATIONAL) OF APPROXIMATELY 145,000 LITERS EACH LOCATED IN PAIRS AT THE FOLLOWING SITES: ONE SITE BETWEEN SENO AND DONE HENE; ONE BETWEEN DONE HENE AND MOUNG PHALANE; AND ONE BETWEEN MOUNG PHALANE AND SEPONE. AT SEPONE THERE IS A LARGE FUEL STORAGE SITE (STRATEGIC) WITH A CAPACITY OF BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR MILLION LITERS.

6. ROUTE 11 EXTENDING FRGM SAVANNAKHET TO ROUTE 13 HAS BEEN CUT BY INSURGENT FORCES SINCE MAY.

7. THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO TRADE BETWEEN MUKDAHAN AND SAVANNAKHET, EXEMPLIFIED BY THE ABSENCE OF ANY GOODS IMPORTED FROM THAILAND IN LOCAL MARKETS.

8. COMMENT: PARAS 2 AND 4 TEND TO CONFIRM INFORMATION REPORTED REFTEL, THOUGH THE NUMBER OF RIVER CRAFT ABOVE IS LARGER THAN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. REFTEL NOTED VIETNAMESE "SETTLEMENTS" IN EASTERN SAVANNAKHET WHILE THIS REPORT LOCATES SUCH SETTLEMENTS IN WESTERN SAVANNAKHET AS WELL. CORCORAN UNQUOTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAND SETTLEMENT, TROOP DEPLOYMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** EA/VLC:TMCARNEY:JY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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